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WEST MERSEA ~~3. Miss Brown~~

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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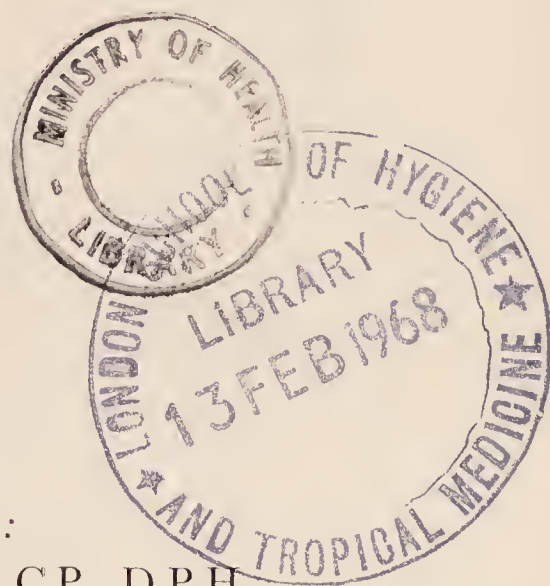
1959

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

MR. W. H. HARRISON

MR. A. L. KNIGHT

MR. E. A. VINCE



Medical Officer of Health:

E. A. HARGREAVES, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector:

E. J. BANNER, M.Inst.H.E., A.R.San.I.

REBOW CHAMBERS,

COLCHESTER.

14th September, 1960.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the Health and Vital Statistics of the District for the year 1959.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

E. A. HARGREAVES.

WEST MERSEA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Statistics and Social Circumstances of the Area

Area	....	....	....	....	2,683 acres
Registrar General's estimate of resident population	....				3,200
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1959) according to					
Rate Book	....	....	....	....	1,262
Rateable Value	....	....	....	....	£34,082
Sum represented by a penny rate	....			....	£137

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The district is the western portion of Mersea Island which lies between the estuaries of the rivers Blackwater and Colne. The nearest town is Colchester, situated about $9\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the north.

As a summer health resort, it attracts a large number of holiday makers, many of whom enjoy some excellent sailing.

The main industries are agriculture, fishing, building and yacht building, etc.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

			<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live births:	All	....	15	24	39
	Legitimate	....	14	24	38
	Illegitimate	....	1	—	1
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population:				12.2	
Comparability factor:	....			1.24	
Corrected birth rate:	....			15.1	
England and Wales:	....			16.5	
Still births:	All	....	—	1	1
	Legitimate	....	—	1	1
	Illegitimate	....	—	—	—
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births:				25	
England and Wales:	....			20.7	
Total births:	....			40	
Infant deaths:	All	....	—	1	1
	Legitimate	....	—	1	1
	Illegitimate	....	—	—	—
Under first week:	All	....	—	—	—
Under four weeks:	All	....	—	—	—
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births:				25.6	
England and Wales	....			22.0	
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births:				26.2	
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births:				—	
Neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births:				—	
Early neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births:				—	
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths plus deaths in 1st week per 1,000 live and stillbirths):				25	

Percentage of illegitimate live births	....	2.6%
Maternal deaths	....	—
Maternal mortality rate	....	—
Death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population		13.6
Corrected death rate	....	13.0
England and Wales	....	11.6
Comparability factor	....	.70

Deaths in various age groups (local statistics)

<i>Age</i>	<i>No. of Deaths</i>
0— 1 year	2
1— 2 years	1
2— 5 years	—
5—15 years	—
15—25 years	—
25—35 years	2
35—45 years	—
45—55 years	1
55—65 years	6
65—75 years	16
75—85 years	23
85 years and upwards	7
	—
	58
	—

CAUSES OF DEATH

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Malignant Neoplasm of Stomach	2	—	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic neoplasms	5	3	8
Diabetes	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of Nervous System	6	4	10
Coronary Disease, Angina	8	6	14
Hypertension with Heart Disease	—	1	1
Other Heart Disease	1	5	6
Other Circulatory Disease	3	2	5
Pneumonia	1	1	2
Bronchitis	2	1	3
Other disease of respiratory system	1	—	1
Congenital malformation	—	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	1	2
Motor vehicle accidents	1	—	1
Suicide	1	—	1
	—	—	—
	32	26	58
	—	—	—

34 people died in West Mersea.

24 people died out of the area (all in various Institutions).

National Assistance Acts, 1948-51

No action was taken under these Acts.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority

Medical Officer of Health—E. A. Hargreaves, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. He is employed part-time; he devotes the remainder of his time to two neighbouring authorities and to the County Council.

Public Health Inspector—E. J. Banner, M.Inst.H.E., A.R.San.I. He is also employed as Surveyor to the Council.

Laboratory Facilities

There has been no change in the facilities described in the last report.

The Laboratories available are situated at:

The Essex County Hospital, Colchester.

The Public Health Laboratory, Woodbridge Road, Ipswich.

The Counties Laboratory, 66 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

Ambulance

Non-emergency ambulance calls are not accepted from the general public.

To obtain an ambulance in an emergency it is merely necessary to lift the telephone receiver and ask for an ambulance. If there is a dialling system in operation dial "999," "O" or "O1" and ask for an ambulance.

Health Services provided by the Essex County Council

Ante-natal and post-natal clinics.

Midwives.

Nursing in the home.

Health visiting.

Mental welfare.

Home helps.

Vaccination and diphtheria immunisation.

Provision of nursing equipment and apparatus.

School health service.

Ante-natal and post-natal clinics are held at the Health Services Clinic, Culver Street, Colchester, at 2.30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Infant Welfare Clinics are held at the Church Hall on the second Wednesday in each month at 2.15 p.m.

Welfare foods are obtainable from:

Mersea Stores, Yorick Road, West Mersea.

Central Stores, Barfield Road, West Mersea.

Assistance from the Home Help Service is obtained by communicating with the Area Organiser, Area Office, Trinity Street, Colchester (Telephone: Colchester 6251, Ext. 3).

Health Services provided by the Regional Hospital Board

Tuberculosis.—The Chest Clinic is situated at 3, Shewell Road, Colchester, and is open daily.

V.D.—Sessions held at the Essex County Hospital on Mondays, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. for males and females, and Fridays, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. for males and females.

Certain specialist services, obtainable through the School Medical Service, are also provided.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA WATER

The water supply is obtained from a deep bore on the island owned by the Council. The water is chlorinated and has been sufficient in quantity. The water is salty to the taste as it contains a high proportion of chlorides. Fluorine is also present in sufficient quantity to cause mottling of the teeth.

A few houses at the eastern end of the District are supplied by a neighbouring authority, whose water main traverses the District at this point.

Work was completed on the provision of additional water storage at the Council's Waterworks.

The number of samples submitted for analysis during the year was:

<i>Chemical</i>	<i>Bacteriological</i>
2	16

Chemical Results in Parts per Million

Appearance.—Faint opalescence with a slight deposit. Microscopical examination—Mineral matter and organic debris.

		<i>Turbidity</i>	less than 3
<i>Colour</i>	5	<i>Odour</i>	Nil
<i>pH</i>	8.2	<i>Free Carbon Dioxide</i>	absent
<i>Electric conductivity</i>	3000	<i>Total Solids</i>	2000
<i>Chlorine present as</i>		<i>Alkalinity as Calcium</i>	
<i>Chloride</i>	760	<i>Carbonate</i>	395
<i>Hardness: Total</i>	75		
<i>Carbonate</i>	75	<i>Non-Carbonate</i>	0
<i>Nitrate Nitrogen</i>	1.1	<i>Nitrite Nitrogen</i>	approx. 0.01
<i>Ammoniacal Nitrogen</i>	0.58	<i>Oxygen absorbed</i>	0.50
<i>Albuminoid Nitrogen</i>	0.041	<i>Residual Chlorine</i>	—
<i>Metals: Iron</i>	0.05,		
<i>lead</i>			
<i>Manganese</i>	absent		
<i>Fluoride</i>	6.0 p.p.m.		

Bacteriological Results

Probable numbers per 100 ml.	
Coliform bacilli	0
Bact. coli (type 1)	0
The number of houses supplied from the Council's mains is	1,168
The number of houses supplied from the mains of a neighbouring authority is	31
The number of houses supplied from standpipes (with an approximate population of 60) is	49

The number of houses connected to the main during the year							
was	....	....	....	....	....	....	24

No extensions were carried out.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Inspections

Houses inspected	....	....	....	....	98
Inspections under Public Health Acts	....	....	....	....	17
Butcher's shops inspected	....	....	....	....	22
Fried Fish shops inspected	....	....	....	....	10
Ice Cream stores inspected	....	....	....	....	44
Bakehouses inspected	....	....	....	....	3
Factory Acts	....	....	....	....	22
Moveable Dwellings and Caravan sites inspected	....	....	....	....	25

Notices

Statutory Notices served, Public Health Acts	....	....	....	Nil
Informal Notices served, Public Health Acts	....	....	....	1
Informal Notices complied with	....	....	....	1
Demolition or closing orders issued	....	....	....	Nil

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Twenty-four houses were connected to the sewer during the year.

HOUSING

Housing does not present the problem which is experienced by other authorities. A good proportion of the houses are owner-occupied, and the remainder are for the most part in a good state of repair. It was not necessary to represent any for slum clearance. Twenty-four houses were completed by private enterprise, four by the Council.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

Refuse is now disposed of to the Colchester Borough's controlled tip at Stanway.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Pneumonia	....	1
Dysentery	....	1
Measles	....	11
		—
		13
		—

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

As no local slaughterhouses have yet been licensed, carcasses are brought into the district from the Borough of Colchester, and other districts.

The number of food premises registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act are:

Sausages and potted meats	....	2
Ice cream premises	....	22

MOSQUITO NUISANCE

Known breeding places of mosquitoes were sprayed at intervals throughout the breeding season.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Routine inspection of factories is made at suitable intervals. The attention of the management is drawn to any defects which are observed.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health:

<i>Premises</i>	<i>No. on Register</i>	<i>No. of Inspections</i>
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	11	22
Cases in which defects were found	3	Remedied 3

OUTWORK

<i>Number of outworkers in August List required by Section 110 (i) (c)</i>	<i>Irregularities Sect. 110</i>	<i>Irregularities Sect. 111</i>
Nil	Nil	Nil

